Tourism Development Corporation". A comprehensive tourism development plan have been prepared by the State Government for infrastructure development in the district. A special package of incentives which includes tax benefit for a period of 12 years and concessional rates for Government land have also been announced by the State Government.

Tourism Inflow to Rajasthan

†2127. SHRI ONKAR SINGH LAKHAWAT: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise number of tourists who visited the country during 1998-99 together with the number of the foreign tourists;

(b) the total number of foreign tourists who visited Rajasthan during 1998-99, together with the number of those who visited Pushkar, Jaipur and Jaisalmer; and

(c) the scheme being formulated by Government for the development of tourism in Rajasthan, indicating the amount of fund which would be provided to the State for the purpose during 1999-2000?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (KUMARI UMA BHARTI): (a) As per the information available from the State Governments, the estimated number of visits of tourists together with the number of foreign tourists in different States during calendar year 1998 are as follows:

States	Number of visits of	
	Foreign Tourists	Total Tourists
Andhra Pradesh	82720	39444058
Arunachal Pradesh	34	1083
Assam	754	14658
Bihar	130723	9169869
Goa	272028	1232707
Gujarat	9252	231862
Haryana	1316	260596

States	Number of visits of	
	Foreign Tourists	Total Tourists
Himachal Pradesh	62952	3969980
Jammu and Kashmir	23137	4637256
Karnataka	249836	12245889
Kerala	184227	5484366
Madhya Pradesh	102800	7785632
Maharashtra	980850	8164537
Manipur	274	89529
Meghalaya	1055	138007
Mizoram	126	24124
Nagaland	210	41472
Orissa	35090	2948335
Punjab	12690	396756
Rajasthan	591369	6994679
Sikkim	9960	124428
Tamil Nadu	645580	20565137
Tripura	596	236536
Uttar Pradesh	719000	39640640
West Bengal	194011	4829310
Andaman & Nicobar	6030	71238
Chandigarh	8563	453132
Daman & Diu	7600	71818
Delhi	1162400	2659282
Lakshadweep	807	4394
Pondicherry	20900	437981

The figure are maintained calendar year-wise and not financial year-wise.

(b) According to the information available from the State Government, total number of foreign tourists who visited the

accommodation units in Rajasthan and Pushkar, Jaipur and Jaisalmer during calendar year 1998 were as follows:—

Number of Visits of Foreign Tourists in			
Rajasthan	Pushkar	Jaipur	Jaisalmer
591369	38150	150971	52299

(c) Development of tourism is an ongoing process and is primarily undertaken by the State Governments. Union Government also provides financial assistance to the State Governments. During the year 1999-2000, a sum of Rs. 574.19 lakhs has been prioritised for the development of tourism in Rajasthan.

Development of Heritage Tourism in Punjab

2128. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for development of heritage Tourism in Punjab; if so, since when the said scheme is in operation;

(b) the facilities being provided by Government of Punjab for converting the mansions, forts and palaces into hotels under the said scheme and the maximum limit of facilities/assistance likely to be provided;

(c) the number of mansions, forts and palaces converted into heritage hotels so far in Punjab; and

(d) the extent of financial assistance provided to the owners of the said hotels?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (KUMARI UMA BHARTI): (a) to (d) Development of Tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Government. The Union Ministry of Tourism extend financial assistance to the State based on specific proposals received from them seeing financial assistance for Development of Tourism in the State. Subject to availability of funds and inter-se priorities.